

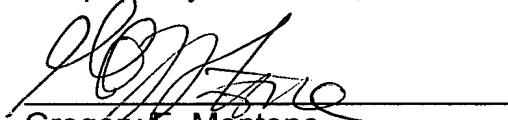
### **REMARKS**

By the above amendments, the specification has been amended at page 2 to refer to WO98/21691 and claims 1-5 have been canceled, and new claims 6-24 have been added, noting that such amendments correspond to the amendments presented in the Article 34 Amendment in the PCT application.

Examination of the application and favorable action thereof is respectfully requested.

Please charge any shortage in the fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, to Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (843.45150X00) and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gregory E. Montone', is written over a horizontal line.

Gregory E. Montone

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